(b) whether the pantry car in trains are equipped with the cooking gas cylinders; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the poor vendors on the platform not allowed to have the same alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Standard Meals, Tea/Coffee and Breakfast and a-la-carte items are supplied to the passengers at the rates fixed by Railway Board and IRCTC respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per policy no cooking is permitted on platforms at suburban stations and at other stations cooking is to be progressively reduced and prohibited on stalls and trolleys on the platforms, except for making of tea.

Unhygienic food in Bilaspur Rajdhani Express

†905. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food being served in Bilaspur Rajdhani Express is not prepared at clean place;

(b) whether this matter has been investigated into; and

(c) the efforts made to improve the arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Base kitchens where from the meals are supplied to Bilaspur Rajdhani are ISO (International Organization for Standardization) certified. Regular checks at these Base kitchens and in trains are conducted by the officials of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and zonal railways to ensure that good quality of food is served to the passengers.

Indo-Nepal rail project

†906. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Indo-Nepal rail project;

(b) whether it would be expedited in the changed scenario; and

(c) by when the new target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) For providing Broad Gauge rail connectivity between border towns of India and Nepal, Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic Surveys have been conducted at the following five locations on behalf of Ministry of External Affairs:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. Jogbani (India) to Biratnagar (Nepal);

2. New Jalpaiguri (India) to Kakrabitta (Nepal) *via* Panitanki;

3. Nepalganj Road (India) to Nepalganj (Nepal);

4. Nautanwa (India) to Bhairahawa (Nepal); and

5. Conversion of existing rail line from Jaynagar (India) to Bijalpura to Broad Gauge and extension to Baridibas.

Out of the above five proposals, Jogbani (India) to Biratnagar (Nepal) new line and Jaynagar (India) to Bijalpura Gauge Conversion with extension to Baridibas (Nepal) have been prioritized and steps have been taken for final location surveys which are expected to be completed within 5 to 6 months.

New technology for running the trains

907. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has introduced a new technology/ mechnology/ procedure for running of the trains, as desired, instead of their destination;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a train on 5th October, 2008 left Kanpur to reach Darbhanga *via* Lucknow-Gorakhpur but routed for Allahabad;

(c) whether similar carelessness have also occurred in the past and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the main reasons for such a gross negligence on the part of the concerned officers/staff; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken for not to repeat such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) On 30.09.2008 one special train coming from Beas to Rewa was wrongly routed *via* Ghaziabad instead of Palwal. After detailed enquiry, responsibility was fixed on 4 officials of Northern Railway and suitable action has been initiated for their lapses.

Incident of pushing out of train

908. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 13 year old boy was pushed out of running train by a TTE of Mumbai-Howrah Gitanjali Express on 2nd July this year, as a result of which the boy lost his two limbs;

(b) if so, whether Railways have got the matter enquired into; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It is reported that on 2.07.2008, one boy aged about 15 years fell down from Train No.2859 Dn.